

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 – 25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a surface decor for a trim part, the surface decor comprising a first region formed exclusively by a decor inlay and a second region formed by a cast skin, comprising:

introducing [[a]] the decor inlay into a space between upper and lower tools of a casting tool;

clamping an edging of the decor inlay between the upper and lower tools so that the edging projects into a cavity formed between the upper and lower tools and corresponding to the second region of the surface decor, a remaining portion of the decor inlay being accommodated outside of said cavity, the cavity being sealed at a location where the decor inlay is clamped between the upper and lower tools; and

filling the cavity between the upper and lower tools with a curing material to form [[a]] the cast skin enclosing the edging after the decor inlay has been clamped between the upper and lower tools.

27. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the trim part is an interior trim part for a motor vehicle.

28. (Original) A method according to claim 26 wherein the curing material includes polyurethane and wherein the cast skin resulting therefrom has an average thickness of between approximately 0.7 mm and 1.5 mm.

29. (Original) A method according to claim 26, further comprising, depositing a paint layer remaining on the cast skin onto a surface of the lower tool before filling the cavity covering a portion of the decor inlay with a mask.

30. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the lower tool is divided such that a first region accommodating the decor inlay is lowerable relative to a second region of the lower tool accommodating the cast skin.

31. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the lower tool comprises a web along a line separating the cavity from non-edge portions of the decor inlay, wherein the edging of decor inlay is clamped between this web and the upper tool, the upper tool comprising a recess for the web.

32. (Original) A method according to claim 31, wherein the web has at least one of (i) a width of between approximately 0.7 mm and 1.5 mm and (ii) a height of between approximately 3 mm and 10 mm.

33. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the upper tool is divided such that a first region covering the decor inlay is liftable and lowerable relative to a second region separating non-edge regions of the decor inlay from the cavity.

34. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein decor inlay is held on one of the upper and lower tools by a vacuum.

35. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the upper tool comprises a plurality of positioning pins, wherein the decor inlay is introduced into the casting tool with the edging bearing on the positioning pins.

36. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the decor inlay forms a middle region of the surface decor encased peripherally by the cast skin.

37. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the decor inlay is formed of one of leather, textile material and a polymer material.

38. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein a rear side of the decor inlay which is not visible when installed, includes one of a coating, a film and a blocking layer applied thereto.

39. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein a rear side of the decor inlay which is not visible when installed, consists of a foam-tight material.

40. (Original) A method according to claim 31, wherein a joint is created by the web and wherein a region formed between the cast skin and non-edge regions of the decor inlay is pushed together to reduce the joint to a disappearing gap after removal of the surface decor from the casting tool.

41 – 46. (Cancelled)